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Alaska PEOPLE

Bureau of Land Management

APRIL 1982

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 4



BLM director opens Arctic Winter Games

"I must say, this is the first speech I've ever given through chattering teeth," laughed BLM Director Robert Burford as he addressed the hundreds of athletes from Alaska, Northwest Territory and the Yukon Territory gathered March 14 for the opening ceremonies of the Arctic Winter Games in Fairbanks.

Burford was in Fairbanks acting as the President's representative at the bi-annual event which was being held in Fairbanks for the first time since 1967. Prior to attending the opening ceremonies at Fairbanks' Alaskaland, Burford had as opportunity to watch some of the sports associated with the games.

Earlier in the day, Burford, along with State Director Curt McVee, District Manager Carl Johnson and Public Affairs Officer Bill Robertson, attended a luncheon meeting with Lt. Governor Terry Miller and representatives of the Alaska legislature and local government officials.

Burford's visit to Alaska served a two-fold purpose--acting as the president's representative at the games and meeting with BLM employees in the state.

To accomplish this, Burford had a busy schedule for the remainder of his stay in Fairbanks. On Monday morning at 8:30, he arrived at the Fairbanks District Office for an all-employee meeting where he explained his concept of the role of BLM in Alaska and responded to questions concerning Bureau policy and programs.

At the close of the session, Carl Johnson introduced Tula Belton, district clerk, and praised her for her role as Chairman of the Hospitality and Color Committee for the Arctic Winter Games.

Bill Robertson, on behalf of district employees, presented Burford with the book, "Fairbanks: A Pictorial History," as a memento of his visit to Alaska.



Following the all-employee meeting, Burford met with the members of the FDO principal staff, the DM and ADM for a briefing on activities on BLM in the Fairbanks District.

District employees then had an opportunity to visit with Burford on a one-to-one basis at an informal coffee break arranged by the FDO Social Committee.

He then toured the Fairbanks Land Office, the only district land office in the Bureau, prior to speaking at the noon meeting of the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce and meeting with the Chamber's Board of Directors.

Before departing for Anchorage, he returned to the district office to receive additional briefings on NPR-A activities in Alaska and the role that the Alaska Fire Service plays in Alaska.*

ADO'S Allen receives award

When Danielle Allen bid on the Anchorage District's first upward mobility job in 1978, she knew it would be a challenge and that hunch was proven out many times. Recently the recipient of a special achievement award for her work in the Public Affairs Office, Allen says the experience has been more than worthwhile.

Selected as a Public Contact Assistant to help with public meetings and public participation, Allen came from the typing pool to her new job with very little formal training. She has progressed in the position with the help of lots of on-the-job training as well as several good professional training courses, according to her supervisor Joette Storm.

"The pressure on Danielle to succeed in this first test of the Upward Mobility program must have been tremendous, but she stuck with it and has used her natural flexibility and willingness to try new things to her best advantage."

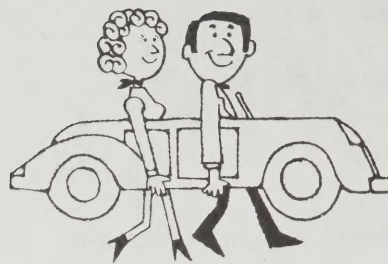
Nominated for the award for her graphics work on many district publications, Allen stepped in to fill the gap on the staff when the district lost its illustrator. "This gave me exposure to an area in which I had never worked. I know now that this is the kind of work I want to do and hope to take more formal classes to perfect my ability and skill, she says.*

Minchumina applications in

BLM received 119 oil and gas lease applications for land near Lake Minchumina. Although some were rejected, those leases that were accepted should be issued by the end of April.

Some 16 trade and manufacturing sites, one headquarters site and nine homesite applications also were filed.*

Director has-a whale of a time



Save gas,
car pool
with a friend

He had a whale of a time at the Anchorage District and didn't even go near the ocean...BLM Director Robert Burford was feted at a district potluck March 17 during his Alaska tour. The menu included muktuk--whale blubber --compliments of the Arctic Slope Native Association.

District archaeologist John Beck, who obtained the muktuk for the luncheon, was one of dozens of district employees who prepared Alaskan foods for the potluck. Other delicacies included caribou stew, moose roast and baked salmon.

Ninety employees crowded into the training room to sup with the Director and hear his comments. Later the floor was opened up to questions concerning reorganization, the conversion of WAE employees, the sale of federal lands and the budget.

After lunch, Iditarod veteran Patty Friend treated Burford to a dogsled ride using some of her Iditarod Trail dogs. Burford, who has spent many days on horseback as a Colorado rancher, tried his hand at running the dogs across the Campbell Tract.

In addition, several awards were presented by the Director. David Mabraten and Jan Sosnowski, realty specialists, received awards for their work in placing 18 wild horses. Louise Todd, chief of the branch of administrative services, and Debbie Hole, personnel clerk, were honored for their personnel and payroll activities.*

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COMING AND GOING

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clerk typist
clerk typist
motor vehicle operator
clerk typist
spv general engineer
natural resource specialist
social science analyst

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OCS

RETIRING

Otto "Bill" Lowe

procurement analyst

ASO

NEWCOMERS

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Karen Pope
Susan Pokorney
Arthur Paulson
Rose Paul
Carol Nicholson
Jane Miller
William Peake
David Mushovic
Mary McNeil
John Jozifek
Marilyn Plahuta
Laureen More
Dorothy More
Sybil Monroe
Manual Lopez Jr.
Andrew Laughlin
Kamza Juhre
Monica Joseph
Margaret Grass
Thomas Gainer
Eunice Fennel
Jill Clark
Kenneth Butner
Wayne Biessel
Evelyn Walker
Debbie Oakes
Brent Mickey
Najice McDowell
Melinda Gallagher
Mary Bertini

secretary
cartographic technician
information receptionist
clerical assistant
cartographic aid
clerk typist
legal clerk
clerk typist
land law examiner
cartographic technician
clerk typist
cartographic aid
cartographic aid
misc documents examiner
land law examiner
legal clerk
cartographic aid
mail and file clerk
mail and file clerk
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legal clerk
clerk typist
legal clerk
cartographic technician
cartographic aid
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Burford transfers land to state

The Director of the Bureau of Land Management, Robert F. Burford, held a press conference March 17, in Anchorage, as part of his busy schedule that included opening the Winter Games in Fairbanks for President Reagan.

One of the high points of that conference held at the Alaska State Office came when he announced the conveyance of roughly 780,000 acres of public land to the State. The conveyance is part of the entitlement procedures contained in the Alaska Statehood Act, and is a portion of the Secretary of Interior's commitment to convey some 13 million acres to the State per year.

On hand to receive the conveyance was Reed Stoops, Director of the Division of Research and Development, Alaska State Department of Resources. Stoop expressed appreciation on behalf of the State and mentioned that this brought the total of land conveyed to the State of Alaska to 57 million acres; a little over half of the State's entitlement of 104 million acres of public land.

The Director made a point of explaining that the matter of quick conveyance of lands was due mainly to the work of the Districts and the Alaska State Office. "We only give the direction, the implementation rests in the hands of our field people."

The acreage is contained within three large parcels of land located east of the Koyuk National Wildlife Refuge, west of

Mt. McKinley, and northwest of Alatna . . . east of the Gates of the Arctic National Park.

Director Burford also announced the results of the Minchumina oil and gas lease offering. "A total of 119 applications were received by the close of the March 5th deadline. This nets the government a total of \$343,665 in filing fees and advance rentals."

According to Burford, the leases will now be adjudicated and issued on or before April 30, 1982. The lease offerings came about as the result of Section 1008 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act which directs the Secretary of the Interior to establish an oil and gas leasing program on non-North Slope federal lands in Alaska. BLM has identified roughly 39 million acres to study for potential oil and gas leasing.

In his prepared notes Director Burford also announced the second National Petroleum Reserve — Alaska lease sale offering scheduled for May 26. He said that this latest offering, roughly 3.5 million acres of public land, will surpass that of any other federal offshore or onshore action of similar nature to date. The first NPR-A sale was held last January.

The May 26th sale will be held in Fairbanks in conjunction with a similar State oil and gas sale to "... help out those people in industry, allowing them to make one trip and be able to bid not only on the federal offering, but the State's as well," according to Burford.*

EEO celebrates women's history month

Women's History Month was celebrated by the EEO staff on March 29. Ayn Petty, Federal Women's Program Manager, invited Betty Katchatag, Outreach Worker for the Cook Inlet Native Association, to be the guest speaker. The was "Alaska Native Women and Their Roles."

Katchatag, an Alaskan Native, told of her family life in the village; her mother being the sole support for a large family and the difficulties they all encountered growing up on one income. She also shared her experiences in growing up in Nome, leaving there and coming to Anchorage. She told about her bouts with TB and of being unable to attend school because of her illness. Katchatag said that education is the key to success and she marvelled at all the career opportunities available to young people.

"Betty is a delightful person," Petty said, "and everyone present gained a better insight into village life, and how one must work diligently to overcome adversity."

The second half of the morning pro-

gram was a film entitled "With Babies and Banners" which depicted the role of women in the labor movement of the 1930's.

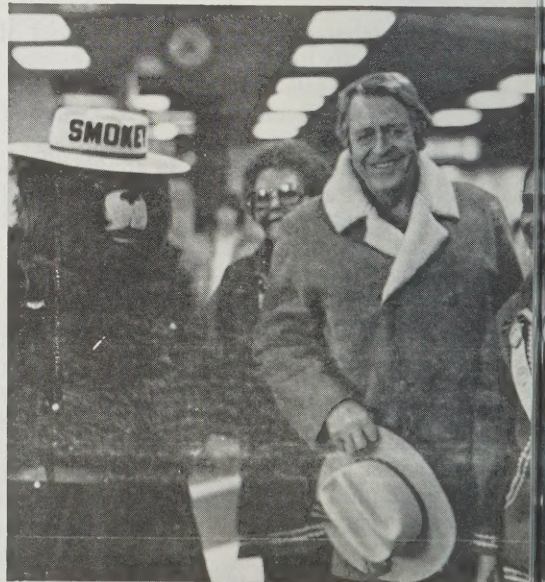
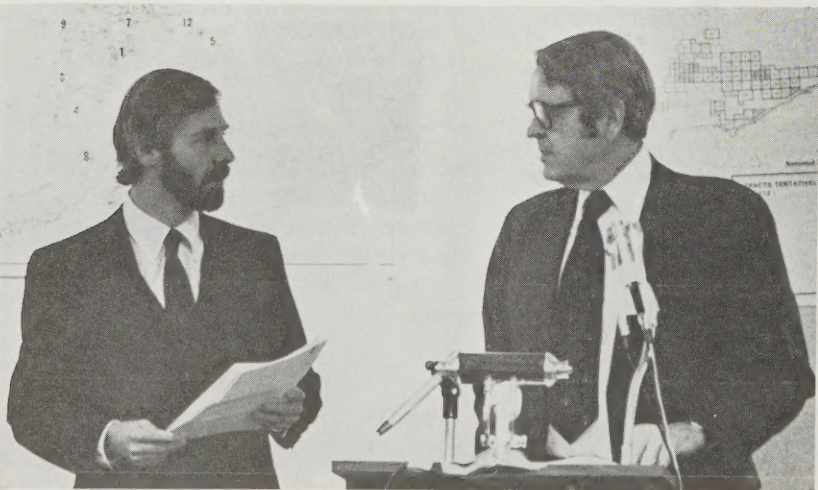
A videotape exposing an organization in society where traditional sex roles were reversed called "Hire Him, He's Got Great Legs" was shown in the afternoon.*



Ayn Petty, left, and Betty Katchatag, Outreach Worker for the Cook Inlet Native Association, discuss the program for Women's History Month held on March 29.



Direct





or Burford



meets BLM-Alaska

Travel tips: Some smarts about baggage



You arrive in Portland fresh and ready for your training session. Your baggage isn't so lucky. Hundreds of bags meander through the claim area but yours isn't among them. In desperation you go to customer service. They put a tracer on it and your bags show up three days later.

Sound familiar doesn't it. Almost everyone who travels has at least one horror story about lost luggage. And since almost everyone in Alaska travels by air once in a while, the chances of your luggage going astray are pretty good. How do you make sure that you and your luggage arrive at the same place at the same time? Here are a few hints which might be helpful.

"Baggage" can mean many different things-- a box of King Crab for your grandmother in Topeka, two bushels of Idaho peaches from your mother or a suitcase or two. Not included in "baggage" are the small loose items that you are allowed to take into the cabin with you, such as an overcoat, attache case, purse, umbrella, camera, baby food etc. If there's space, a garment bag or collapsible stroller can be taken on board. Everything else is considered baggage.

On most airlines, you are allowed to check two pieces of luggage free of charge. Together, they can't exceed 61 inches overall or weigh more than 62 pounds. Relax, that new three-suiter you just bought measures less than that. In addition, you are entitled to a third piece of luggage which must be carried on board. This third piece of luggage may consist of several small packages but it must be small enough--no larger than 21 inches long, 16 inches wide and 8 inches deep--to fit under a seat and weigh less than 62 pounds.

Excess baggage costs vary with each airline. On a TWA domestic flight, after your two free pieces, checked items three through six cost \$17 a piece. Over six, the charge quadruples to \$28 for each additional piece. On international flights, for each piece over two, the charge depends on where you begin and end your trip. Oversize and overweight baggage may be checked as long as it doesn't exceed 100 inches in circumference or 100 pounds in weight. Larger baggage must be shipped by some other means.

What shouldn't you check? Delicate items of high value like television sets, paintings and cameras should't be checked. Hazardous materials--compressed gases, acids and other corrosive liquids, flammable liquids or solids, explosives and the like-- won't be accepted. Don't take any chances. Ask the airline representative if you have any questions.

Hints for the traveler

Always check in at least 30 minutes before your flight.

Check the tags that are put on your baggage. They carry the airport code and city name. If you're going to JFK airport in New York City and the tags say LAX Los Angeles, you're in trouble.

Remove all of the old tags. They might bring back memories to you but they just confuse the baggage handlers.

When you arrive, go to the baggage claim area immediately.

Have your name clearly marked on the inside and outside of all bags.

Know your claim check number and be able to describe your bag and its contents.

Always lock your bag. *

Cadastral reaches another milestone

It's another first for BLM-Alaska. The Cadastral Survey Division is using a computer-driven plotter to generate survey plats.

"Although it looks difficult to master, the system was designed for simplicity--for someone ignorant of computer languages, technology and programming," says Tom Eidel, the cartographic aid in charge of the equipment. "We've trained about one-third of our employees on the system. It takes about two weeks to complete the training although the hardest part is getting the feel of the equipment--what it will do and what it won't."

Instead of sketching in the survey lines by pencil, like you'd do if you were drawing the plat by hand, the operator enters each boundary point into the computer. Then, a series of commands are entered to tell the plotter what lines to draw and what statements to write. Using these coordinates and commands the plotter draws the survey plat.

It can take from two to 10 hours to enter the coordinates and commands into the computer and five to 10 minutes to complete the plat. Drawing the same plat by hand could take two or more days depending on the complexity of the survey.

Not all of the work is done by the plotter. Some handwork is still required "Some of the easiest things to do by hand are the hardest to do by machine and vice versa," Eidel said. "The plotter has problems making the notations follow the meanders of the survey lines. On the other hand, the north arrow, which can take half an hour to complete by hand takes about two minutes on the plotter."

Since the equipment was installed about four months ago, 60 to 70 survey plats have been drawn by the computer/plotter. As the operator's skill on the equipment increases and programs more tailored to Alaska's surveying problems are written, this number will increase substantially.

Two other BLM state offices, California and Colorado, have consulted BLM-Alaska about starting similar programs. "Using the computer-driven plotter, we should be better able to keep up with the number of surveys being done each year, do them more accurately and more efficiently," Eidel said. *



Up front in Personnel

The lowly front desk? Hardly.

Gateway to 952, Liaison Agent Supreme; Cornucopia of Knowledge; Distributor of Forms; Guardian of the Quiet Hour, Throbbing Pulse of Personnel. That's more like it.

This first stop to Personnel can often be the end of the quest for many.

Stop here first...why? Because the *Keepers of the Front Desk* can assure that you get what you need and that who you want to see is available. They help to guard your right to privacy by insuring uninterrupted conferences among members of your staffing team and preventing the disconcerting sudden appearance of an interloper to your appointments with your team. And, believe me, they make sure your telephone and other messages are delivered.

Have a question? The *Keepers of the Front Desk* can answer many of your questions and assist you in determining to who to speak if further information is required.

Want to apply for a job? All the applications, questionnaires, vacant position applications and et ceteras you'll ever need for BLM jobs are held at the front desk. Also available are copies of vacancy announcements for BLM, Interior and other agency jobs. In addition, if you need more qualification information than is printed in the announcements, they'll show you the X-118 qualification standard for the General Schedule job series of your choice. Wage grade job standards are not public information by law.

The public, as well as employees, often want to know about OPM registers and how they work. The front desk has that information in the form of OPM announcements, both local and nationwide. And if you have business with OPM, you can use the OPM mail bin on the front desk--daily runs for convenience's sake.

And how about the myriad of other forms used to keep the wheels of government rolling? All forms used by the Personnel Office can be obtained from the front desk. Forms to change your name, buy a bond, establish or change your check mailing address, travel, designate a beneficiary, make an insurance claim, apply for leave, list a college course, and so on...the front desk is replete with forms.

All in all, some hefty responsibilities to you, the public and the 952 staff. The front desk is your first resource; make use of it.*

FDO'S Knapman is Employee of the Year

Larry Knapman was named one of the Fairbanks Federal Employees of the Year at the March 12 luncheon of the Federal Executive Association. Also nominated were Josephine England and Jerry Calentine.

This is the third consecutive year that a BLM employee has been selected as Employee of the Year by the Fairbanks FEA.

Bureau-wide photo contest rules arrive

Here are the rules for the Bureau-wide photo contest.

Schedule: *Entries must be submitted to the Washington Public Affairs Office by May 10, 1982.

*Winners will be announced the first week in June.

Categories: *There will be two major classes, black and white prints and color transparencies.

*Photos will be judged in five categories for each class.

- 1) BLM employees at work.
- 2) public uses of the land.
- 3) wildlife and wild horses and burros.
- 4) scenic vistas.
- 5) mineral exploration and development.

Format: *Black and white photos must be at least 8 x 10
*Color transparencies must be 35mm or larger
*All photo captions must include:

- 1) caption
- 2) location and date of photo
- 3) name of entrant
- 4) category in which photo is to be entered.

There will be awards for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in each category. Please send all entries to: Don Cabrera, BLM, Office of Public Affairs (133) Washington, D.C. 20240. *

THE LAST PAGE



"I was sitting there looking for the award winner. It didn't register that it was me," said Kay Kletka after receiving her Quality Step Increase from BLM Director Robert Burford.

Kletka garnered the award for her work with the mining community. "Kay has helped create a climate of understanding between the miners and the Bureau," State Director Curt McVee said. She joined BLM in 1973 as a legal clerk. Since then she has worked as a legal assistant and a land law examiner. She specializes in locatable minerals, patents and contests and is the author of a booklet on how to patent a mining claim.



**Alaska
PEOPLE**

is your
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Publication**

Handicapped employee of the year sought

Nominations are now being accepted for the "Outstanding Handicapped Federal Employee of the Year." The award recognizes the achievements of individual outstanding handicapped employees and the contributions that they make to the federal workforce.

Nominations should be submitted to ASO Personnel (952) no later than May 3, 1982. Contact Personnel for more information. *

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